

July, 2003. The application was sent for review by applicant and for ultimate filing on October 14, 2003.

It is thus evident that applicant's effective date of invention is June 27, 2002, a date which pre-dates the Winckels patent application publication by almost fourteen months. Winckels thus cannot be considered effective prior art for the rejection of any of the claims to the herein application.


Since Winckels is the base reference for all the rejections under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) and since it is no longer a valid reference, it is respectfully submitted that the currently pending claims are allowable over the prior art.

Moreover, as the herein application is otherwise in condition for allowance, it is respectfully requested that the application be allowed.

It is noted that applicant's Revocation of Power of Attorney with attached Power of Attorney accompanies this Amendment. Please ensure that all future correspondence in this matter is sent to counsel undersigned, as new attorney of record.

Respectfully submitted,

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